

# SENATE JOURNAL

SIXTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE — SECOND CALLED SESSION

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AUSTIN, TEXAS

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## PROCEEDINGS

### FIRST DAY

(Monday, June 4, 1984)

In obedience to the Proclamation of The Honorable Mark White, Governor of the State of Texas, the Senate met in the Senate Chamber of the State Capitol in the City of Austin on the fourth day of June, 1984, at 11:00 o'clock a.m.

The Honorable William P. Hobby, Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate, called the Senate to order.

### QUORUM PRESENT

The President directed the Secretary of the Senate to call the roll of the Senate.

The roll was called and the following Senators were present: Blake, Brooks, Brown, Caperton, Doggett, Edwards, Farabee, Glasgow, Harris, Henderson, Howard, Jones, Kothmann, Leedom, Lyon, Mauzy, McFarland, Montford, Parker, Parmer, Santiesteban, Sarpalius, Sharp, Sims, Traeger, Truan, Uribe, Vale, Washington, Whitmire, Williams.

The President announced a quorum of the Senate present.

The Reverend Jeffrey Walker, Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church, Houston, Texas, offered the invocation as follows:

Almighty God...Who has given us this State for our heritage. We humbly beseech You that we may always prove ourselves people mindful of Your blessings and eager to do Your will. Save us from pride and arrogance. Endue with a spirit of wisdom those to whom, in Your name, we entrust the authority of government. May those of us called to positions of leadership be ever mindful that the exercise of power brings with it the responsibility of justice. To those who make our laws give courage, wisdom and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people. Deliver us in our occupations from the service of self alone, that we may do the work You give us to do for the common good. Direct, we pray, those who speak where many listen...that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous. At this time we ask Your blessing upon all our schools, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may know You to be the source of all truth.

Finally, teach us all to rely on Your strength and to accept our responsibilities to our fellow citizens...that we may continue to elect trustworthy leaders to make wise decisions for the wellbeing of our society...that we may serve You in our generation and honor Your Holy Name.

**PROCLAMATION FROM GOVERNOR  
CALLING SPECIAL SESSION**

The President laid before the Senate the following Proclamation from the Governor:

**PROCLAMATION  
BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Under the provisions of Article IV, Section 8 of the Texas Constitution, I, Mark White, Governor of Texas, do hereby call a Special Session of the 68th Legislature to be convened in the City of Austin, Texas, commencing at 11:00 a.m., Monday, the 4th day of June, A.D., 1984, for the following purposes:

1. To enact comprehensive reform of primary and secondary public education, including revision of school finance structure, and increased compensation and career inducements for public school teachers;
2. To enact measures to provide adequate funding for State Highway Systems maintained by the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation;
3. To enact appropriation measures to implement the above and to enact such revenue measures as are necessary to fund those appropriations and meet the state's reasonably anticipated future needs; and
4. To consider and pass such other items as submitted from time to time by the Governor after the session convenes.

The Secretary of State will take notice of this action and will notify the members of the Legislature.

Done at Austin, Texas, this the 25th day of May 1984, under the Seal of this State properly attested by the Secretary of State.

/s/Mark White  
Governor of Texas

/s/John W. Fainter, Jr., Secretary of State

The Proclamation was read and was filed with the Secretary of the Senate.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 1  
(Caucus Report)**

Senator Mauzy offered the following resolution:

Honorable William P. Hobby  
Lieutenant Governor  
Senate of Texas  
Austin, Texas

Sir:

At a caucus held in the office of the Senate attended by 29 members of the Senate, the following recommendations were made to wit:

The following officers were elected to serve for the 68th Legislature, Second Called Session, at the will of the Senate:

Secretary of the Senate - Betty King  
Sergeant-at-Arms - Kelly Arnold  
Doorkeeper - J. W. Heard

Calendar Clerk - Kay Hughes  
 Enrolling Clerk - Patsy Spaw  
 Journal Clerk - Margrette Vollers  
 Staff Services Clerk - Mary K. McLean

All officers and employees appointed by this caucus shall hold office of employment for the duration of the 68th Legislature, Second Called Session.

It is recommended that the Lieutenant Governor and the Secretary of the Senate each be permitted to name secretarial staff and assistants at salaries designated by the Lieutenant Governor and the Administration Committee respectively. The Parliamentarian, Camilla Bordie, is to be named by the Lieutenant Governor.

It is further recommended that the Administration Committee appoint a sufficient number of custodians, messengers, elevator operators, porters, and other employees as may be necessary. The President of the Senate is authorized to designate any Member of the Senate or Senate staff to attend official meetings of the Council of State Governments or other national governmental organization during the 68th Legislature, Second Called Session, while in session. Actual and necessary expenses are hereby authorized as reimbursement for such trips.

It is further recommended that each Senator shall be permitted \$13,500.00 per month for secretarial and other office staff and for intrastate travel expenses for staff employees. Any unexpended portion of this amount may be carried forward from month to month until the convening of the 69th Legislature at which time the balance lapses. The following classification schedule shall apply for staff employees:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Class Number</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Salary and Step Range</u>
Messenger	0011	02	921(4)- 949(5)- 979(6)
Clerk Typist II/ Clerk II	0106	04	949(1)- 979(2)-1008(3)
Secretary II Clerk III/	0133	05	1142(5)-1177(6)-1215(7)
Research Tech II	0055	06	1074(1)-1107(2)-1142(3)
Secretary III	0135	07	1142(1)-1177(2)-1215(3)
Admin. Secretary	0138	09	1295(1)-1336(2)-1378(3)
Info. Spec. I	1892	14	1790(1)-1850(2)-1912(3)
Admin. Tech. I	1501	08	1215(1)-1255(2)-1295(3)
Journalist I	1859	10	1378(1)-1423(2)-1471(3)
Admin. Tech. II/ Research Asst. I	1502	11	1471(1)-1520(2)-1570(3)
Journalist II	1860	12	1570(1)-1622(2)-1676(3)
Admin. Tech. III	1503	13	1676(1)-1732(2)-1790(3)
Attorney I	3531	14	1790(1)-1850(2)-1912(3)
Admin. Tech. IV/ Attorney II	1504	15	1912(1)-1976(2)-2041(3)
Info. Spec. II	1893	16	2041(1)-2110(2)-2179(3)
Admin. Asst.	1506	17	2179(1)-2254(2)-2329(3)
Attorney III	3533	17	2179(1)-2254(2)-2329(3)
Research Asst. II	1517	13	1676(1)-1732(2)-1790(3)
Info. Spec. III	1864	18	2406(1)-2487(2)-2571(3)
Legal Clerk V/ Legal Counselor	3605	19	2571(1)-2655(2)-2744(3)
Research & Info. Specialist	1866	21	2931(1)-3029(2)-3131(3)

Employees who do not readily fit one of the above classified positions may be assigned a title under the General Classified Positions outlined in the General Appropriations Act upon authorization of the Administration Committee.

The Lieutenant Governor, Senators and the Secretary of the Senate are hereby fully authorized and empowered to use any assistant Sergeant-at-Arms and all other necessary employees for any and all services needed in and about the Senate.

It is further recommended that the Lieutenant Governor, each Senator, and the Secretary of the Senate be permitted to subscribe for newspapers as necessary to be paid out of the contingent fund, be allowed the stationery and postage needed by them respectively, and expenses incurred in transmitting and receiving telephone and telegraph messages and express charges as may be actually necessary in the discharge of their official duties, said expenses to be paid out of the contingent fund.

It is further recommended that not to exceed 2,000 journals be printed, all of which shall be prorated among the Senators and Lieutenant Governor, except that 175 journals shall be furnished the Members of the House.

It is further recommended that the Legislative Reference Library be furnished 60 copies of the daily journal.

It is further recommended that all salaries and expenses herein authorized to be incurred and paid for shall be paid out of the per diem and contingent expense fund of the 68th Legislature as follows: the Senate shall request the State Comptroller of Public Accounts to issue general revenue warrants for the payment of the employees of the Lieutenant Governor's office, the Lieutenant Governor, Members of the Senate, employees of the Senate Committees, and employees of the Senate, except as provided in Section 20 of the Legislative Reorganization Act (Article 5429f, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), upon presentation of the payroll account signed by the Chairman of the Administration Committee and the Secretary of the Senate; and for the payment of materials, supplies, and expenses of the Senate, including travel expenses for Members and employees, upon vouchers signed by the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Administration and the Secretary of the Senate.

It is further recommended that no employee of the Senate shall, during the time he or she is employed, furnish to any person, firm or corporation any information other than general information furnished the public pertaining to the Senate and they shall not without permission receive any compensation from any person, firm, or corporation during their employment by the Senate, and any employee found guilty of violating this provision shall be immediately discharged.

All employees, except those responsible directly to the Lieutenant Governor, Members of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, committee, or to the head of a department, shall report for duty at 8 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. each day to the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate, except part-time employees, who shall report at the place and time directed by the Sergeant-at-Arms, and none of such employees shall be paid for the days they are absent from the Senate, unless excused by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

It is further recommended that the Chairman of each standing committee shall have authority to employ such additional employees of his own selection as may be needed by said committee, said employees to receive the same compensation paid similar positions as herein fixed, and to discharge the duties of said standing committee, subject to the approval of the Administration Committee.

It is further recommended that no employee of the Senate, except those whose official duties require them to work upon the floor of the Senate, shall have access to the floor unless that employee shall have been requested by a Senator, the Lieutenant Governor, or the Secretary of the Senate to come on the floor for some official duty, after the performance of which he shall immediately leave the floor of the Senate. The Sergeant-at-Arms is specifically ordered to see that this provision is carried out.

Only those who have privileges of the floor during the session of the Senate shall be permitted on the Senate floor for a period of 30 minutes prior to the time the

Senate convenes. The Sergeant-at-Arms is instructed to enforce this rule and to permit only those having the privileges of the floor to enter or remain on the Senate floor during such 30-minute period.

Respectfully submitted,  
/s/Oscar Mauzy  
Chairman of the Caucus  
/s/Chet Brooks  
Secretary of the Caucus

The resolution was read and was adopted.

### STANDING COMMITTEES

The President announced that the Standing Committees appointed for the Regular Session, 68th Legislature, would continue to serve for the Second Called Session, 68th Legislature.

### MOTION IN WRITING

Senator Mauzy submitted the following Motion in Writing:

Mr. President, I move that the President be authorized to appoint a committee of five (5) Members to notify the Governor that the Senate is organized and ready to transact business.

MAUZY

The Motion in Writing was read and was adopted.

Accordingly, the President announced the appointment of the following as a Committee to Notify the Governor: Senators Caperton, Glasgow, Truan, Blake, and Brown.

### MOTION IN WRITING

Senator Mauzy submitted the following Motion in Writing:

Mr. President, I move that the President be authorized to appoint a committee of five (5) Members to notify the House of Representatives that the Senate is organized and ready to transact business.

MAUZY

The Motion in Writing was read and was adopted.

Accordingly, the President announced the appointment of the following as a Committee to Notify the House of Representatives: Senators Sharp, Vale, Henderson, Whitmire and Uribe.

### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1

Senator Doggett offered the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the 68th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, That the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Texas meet in Joint Session in the Hall of the House of Representatives at noon, Monday, June 4, 1984, and that the Honorable Mark White, Governor of Texas, be hereby invited to address the Members of the Legislature at that time; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Texas meet in Joint Session in the Hall of the House of Representatives at 10 a.m., Tuesday, June 5, 1984, and that H. Ross Perot, Chairman of the Texas Select Committee on Public Education; Bob Bullock, Comptroller of Public Accounts;

and James P. Oliver, Director of the Legislative Budget Board, be hereby invited to address the Members of the Legislature at that time.

The resolution was read.

On motion of Senator Doggett and by unanimous consent, the resolution was considered immediately and was adopted.

### **SENATE RESOLUTION 2**

Senator Blake offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, One of the most heartening aspects of the aftermath of the devastating Capitol blaze has been the overwhelming response of Texas businesses and industries to the reconstruction effort; and

WHEREAS, The Texas paint and coatings industry has generously donated all the paint required to restore the damaged east wing of the Capitol to its former grandeur; and

WHEREAS, This effort is part of a national community service program sponsored by the National Paint and Coatings Association undertaken by its local association chapters; and

WHEREAS, Tom Lester, Jr., and R. J. Burke from the Dallas Paint and Coatings Association and Ron Armstrong and Neil McBride from the Houston Paint and Coatings Association attended a ceremony honoring the paint industry on January 12, 1984, at which time the first paint was brushed on the walls of the Capitol initiating a prodigious effort which will culminate in a refurnished east wing before the 69th Legislative Session begins in January of 1985; and

WHEREAS, The magnanimous gift of the Texas paint and coatings industry will be appreciated and admired in the years to come by all who visit the Texas Capitol; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 68th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby commend the Texas paint and coatings industry for their generous donation to the Capitol restoration effort; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be prepared for the Texas paint and coatings industry as an expression of highest esteem and gratitude from the Texas Senate.

The resolution was read and was adopted.

### **ESCORT COMMITTEE APPOINTED**

In accordance with the provisions of S.C.R. 1, the President announced the appointment of the following as a Committee to Escort The Honorable Mark White, Governor of the State of Texas, to the Joint Session: Senators Jones, Parker, Farabee, Washington and Brooks.

### **SENATE RESOLUTION 3**

Senator Glasgow offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The true meaning of the term good Samaritan was amply demonstrated by the actions of Senator John Montford on Saturday, April 21, 1984; and

WHEREAS, A witness at the scene of a serious car accident, Senator Montford stopped immediately and delivered mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to victim Lisa Terrell until the arrival of a paramedic team; and

WHEREAS, It is a testimonial to the character of Senator Montford that he stopped and rendered assistance with little regard for his own personal comfort and convenience; and

WHEREAS, The actions of our distinguished colleague reaffirm the opinion of all who know him that he is a caring gentleman of deep moral conviction; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 68th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby commend Senator John Montford for his selfless and heroic actions on April 21, 1984; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared under the Seal of the Senate for Senator John Montford as an expression of admiration and esteem from the Texas Senate.

The resolution was read and was adopted.

On motion of Senator Mauzy and by unanimous consent, the names of the Lieutenant Governor and Senators were added to the resolution as signers thereof.

The Members of the Senate expressed their appreciation to Senator Montford with a standing ovation.

#### **ELECTION OF PRESIDENT PRO-TEMPORE FOR SECOND CALLED SESSION OF THE SIXTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE**

The President announced the election of a President Pro Tempore as the next order of business.

Senator Brooks nominated Senator Lyndon Williams of Harris County as President Pro Tempore for the Second Called Session of the Sixty-eighth Legislature.

Senators Truan, Farabee, Blake, Traeger, Parker, Jones, Santiesteban, Sarpalius, Doggett, Edwards and Uribe seconded the nomination of Senator Williams.

Senator Williams was elected by acclamation.

The President appointed Senators Brooks, Mauzy, Farabee, Santiesteban and Howard to escort Senator Williams to the President's Rostrum.

Senator Williams addressed the Senate, expressing his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as President Pro Tempore of the Senate for the Second Called Session of the Sixty-eighth Legislature.

#### **SENATE NOTIFIED**

A Committee from the House of Representatives appeared at the Bar of the Senate and Representative Carriker for the Committee notified the President and Members of the Senate that the House was organized and ready to transact business.

#### **GOVERNOR NOTIFIED**

The Committee to Notify the Governor that the Senate was organized and ready to transact business appeared at the Bar of the Senate and Senator Blake for the Committee notified the President and Members of the Senate that the Committee had performed the duty assigned it.

The Committee was discharged.

**HOUSE NOTIFIED**

The Committee to Notify the House of Representatives that the Senate was organized and ready to transact business appeared at the Bar of the Senate and Senator Sharp for the Committee notified the President and Members of the Senate that the Committee had performed the duty assigned it.

The Committee was discharged.

**MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE**

House Chamber  
June 4, 1984

HONORABLE W. P. HOBBY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SIR: I am directed by the House to inform the Senate that the House has passed the following:

**S.C.R. 1**, Providing for Joint Sessions on June 4 and June 5, 1984.

**H.C.R. 5**, Welcoming the J. J. Pearce High School academic decathlon team.

Respectfully,

BETTY MURRAY, Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

On motion of Senator Mauzy, the Senate at 11:30 o'clock a.m. agreed to recess until 11:45 o'clock a.m. today to attend the Joint Session and at the conclusion of the Joint Session would stand adjourned until 9:30 o'clock a.m. tomorrow.

**RECESS**

On motion of Senator Mauzy, the Senate at 11:30 o'clock a.m. took recess until 11:45 o'clock a.m. today.

**JOINT SESSION**

(To hear address by The Honorable Mark White, Governor of Texas)

Pursuant to the provisions of S.C.R. 1, the President announced that the hour had arrived for the Joint Session of the two Houses to hear an address by The Honorable Mark White, Governor of the State of Texas.

Accordingly, the Senators present accompanied by the Secretary of the Senate and the Sergeant-at-Arms repaired to the Hall of the House of Representatives at 11:45 o'clock a.m. and were escorted to seats provided for them.

The President was announced by the Doorkeeper of the House and, by invitation of the Speaker of the House, occupied a seat on the Speaker's Rostrum.

The Honorable Mark White, Governor of the State of Texas, accompanied by members of his party, was announced by the Doorkeeper of the House.

The Governor's party was escorted to the Speaker's Rostrum by Senators Jones, Farabee, Parker, Washington and Brooks on the part of the Senate and Representatives Sutton, Davis, Schlueter, Haley and Madla on the part of the House of Representatives.

The President called the Senate to order and announced a quorum of the Senate present.

The Honorable Gib Lewis, Speaker of the House of Representatives, called the House to order, announced a quorum of the House present and stated the purpose of the Joint Session.



The Speaker presented the President who introduced The Honorable Mark White, Governor of the State of Texas, who addressed the Joint Session as follows:

My fellow Texans, I address you at a decisive moment in the history of this State. Today we are at a crossroads. Make no mistake about that. What we do — or fail to do — in this special session will affect the future of an entire generation of Texans.

We may not all agree on every detail of the plan for education reform. We may not all agree on the entire revenue package. But we must — just must agree on the basic objectives that bring us together: our quest for the finest educational system this country has ever seen, and the best transportation system anywhere in America. These are the two things that we must reach for. These are the two things that a growing and vibrant state must have to assure its future.

We know that the forward march of civilization has, at almost every significant turn, been marked by some major improvement that made either mobility or knowledge more accessible. Advancements in education and transportation have always opened new opportunities for our people. The wealth of knowledge, spread across an ever-widening spectrum of society, has always fertilized the seeds of greater prosperity. And investments that have given us greater mobility have always repaid us with rich economic and social rewards.

There is nothing mysterious about the role of education in our society. The entire history of the United States has been an ongoing process of making more and more education available to more and more people. The spread of free universal public education in the early 1800s...the Land Grant Act of the 1860s...the GI Bill of the 1940s...the National Defense Education Act of the 1950s...and the Elementary, Secondary and Higher Education Acts of the 1960s — each of these opened the doors to our schools and universities in dramatic ways.

We never know who is going to pass through those doors when we open them. We never know whose lives are going to be transformed — or whose careers are going to transform our society.

Who could have gone to that Houston school in the 1950s and told us that one of those black girls would grow up to become one of the most brilliant politicians of our age — and one of the admired women of our time?

Who could have sat in that remote Upshur County school and predicted that one of those young boys would today be helping to shape our technological and economic future?

Who could have ever guessed that the skinny young Mexican American in a San Antonio parochial school would develop into the charismatic leader who today sits as mayor of the nation's 10th largest city?

Who could have foreseen that the young boy in that Texarkana school would one day be a great leader in American business?

Are those same doors of opportunity still open to bright young Texans?

Could another Barbara Jordan come out of a crowded, noisy, undisciplined Houston classroom today?

Are we graduating the kind of teachers who can build a fire of intellectual excitement in another Bobby Inman?

Are we producing the kind of teachers who care enough to inspire another Henry Cisneros?

Are we delivering the kind of quality education that will produce another Ross Perot?

I submit to you that the answer is by no means certain.

And yet, isn't it obvious — as history tells us time and again — that our greatest economic resource is our people? Isn't it obvious that a healthy and strong educational foundation is the only true basis for progress...for higher human achievement...and for greater economic growth?

Texas' greatest leaders — from President Mirabeau Lamar of the Republic of Texas to President Lyndon Johnson — recognized this. Education was at the core of Lamar's vision of a greater Texas. And education was at the center of Lyndon B. Johnson's "Great Society."

In the early days of Texas, lands were set aside for the public schools. At that time, it might have been considered a costly investment; but because of that investment those lands continue to finance our public schools today.

Likewise, the tremendous foresight that made possible the creation of Texas' Permanent University Fund has paid off over and over again. That fund has enabled our flagship universities to become institutions of the first class, among the best in the world.

The shape of this state's future was dramatically affected this past year by the decision of the Microelectronic and Computer Technology Corporation to locate its headquarters in Texas. Once again we found that the critical factor, above all others, which made Texas the winner over California and other states was our commitment to a first-class system of education. This consortium of high technology firms has become a tremendous magnet for new industries and firms that are following MCC into our state. But the real magnet was the level of excellence and quality found in our universities.

By the same token, the economic payoffs of America's vast transportation system have been no less dramatic.

We only need to look back as far as the opening of the post roads in this country to find one such example. That accomplishment, though initially sought as a means of opening overland mail routes to our distant frontiers, ushered in a whole new era of overland trade and commerce.

At vast human and monetary expense, we pushed the railroads to the Pacific, built bridges, and dug canals. The price was high, but the advantages drawn from a finished industrial system would aid in the consummation of many a dream.

The Works Progress Administration and the Public Works Administration of the 1930s...the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways of 1950s that would become the largest public works project in the history of the world — in each case the builders and dreamers of better transportation systems have opened new opportunities for virtually every sector of American society.

Public resources and private sector ingenuity have worked together to supply our transportation needs. They have worked in Texas to supply us with a vital network of roads and highways. Yet today that network is straining under the pressures of growth, congestion, and decay. We find that a mainstay of our prosperity is now in jeopardy.

The critical need for new investment in the maintenance and development of our highway system should be lost on no one.

How will we continue to build our communities, generate new industries, provide jobs, link our farms and factories, our homes and places of work, and bring people together without investing in this primary system of transportation?

I believe that Texans are willing to pay for the best highway system in the nation. But to the extent possible, the people who use the highways should be the ones to pay for them.

I share the goal expressed by the legislative leadership: we should remove highways as an unpredictable drain on general revenues. To accomplish this goal the user fees should be both growth oriented and dedicated to transportation.

I am proposing more than 300 million new dollars a year to be invested in highways. This money would come from a 5-cent increase in motor fuel taxes, and I view it as a major step forward.

If the legislature believes that user fees are required, I would ask that they be phased in so we do not damage the economic activity which we are seeking to promote.

We stand today at a time when Texas is capable of becoming a leader in world trade and commerce, if only we will ensure that the necessary systems of economic development are well in place. We stand today at that crossroads — and if we fail now to make the right decision, enormous potential will be lost and our economic prospects will be decreased.

We stand also at a crossroads in the development of human potential — our greatest renewable resource. Every hope for the livelihood and vitality of future generations of Texans now rests squarely on this generation's decision to move forward with a plan to improve public education. It rests squarely on the shoulders of every member of this distinguished body to decide whether Texas will rejuvenate and reform education, or let the status quo continue to seal the fate of our children and grandchildren.

Current conditions make unavoidable the conclusion that we must find better ways of educating our children. The failures of the current system have been spelled out over and over again. The evidence surrounds us, not just in numerous reports and studies, but in the more obvious signs of wasted human potential.

A single tour through our state's prisons and the most cursory understanding of why many of our young people are incarcerated there points to one graphic example of where a poor education can lead. The frustration and embarrassment suffered by those who cannot read and write well enough even to fill out a simple job application is another. Crime and unemployment are among the greatest tragedies that result.

The failures of education are also taking their toll in the area of national security by endangering the quality of this county's armed forces. A recent federal government study found that 45 percent of the Army's recruits could not read or do math as well as the average ninth-grader. The fact that so many recruits cannot even begin their military training until they receive extensive remedial education to overcome functional illiteracy has costly and ominous implications.

Equally disturbing, are the less dramatic but more common limitations faced by the young men and women who enter the job market unable to perform the simplest mathematical problem...the young men and women entering college who cannot write a simple declarative sentence. For all intents and purposes, basically intelligent people are locked in prisons of their own educational limitations — and their futures are predetermined.

We all recognize that we face a crisis in American education. In the past year, we have seen other states coming to terms with that crisis. The opportunity is now at hand to halt the decline of education in Texas and turn back the tide of mediocrity in our own public schools.

The months of work by the Select Committee on Public Education — the "Perot Committee" — the dedication and commitment of leaders throughout this state, and the resolve of the leadership of this House and Senate to reform education in Texas all have given us a moment of opportunity in which to take action. Public support is providing us with the momentum we need to bring about real and lasting change.

I applaud both the Legislature and the State Board of Education for reforms already enacted in four major areas.

The Legislature has revised the basic outline for instruction. Reform was extended to the area of teacher education...a study of vocational training was undertaken...and the State Board has been working to protect the instructional day for academic purposes.

Before there ever was a report entitled "A Nation at Risk," Texas was acting to reduce its own risk.

Members of the State Board of Education and the 67th Legislature deserve our appreciation for taking these first steps in the reform movement. But even as we applaud these initiatives, we recognize them as only a beginning.

Texas has always had a proud tradition of leadership in the United States. Steadily, our state has moved toward leadership in the world community. That leadership, however, is being challenged daily by the forces of competition. We face a decisive and critical choice by which we will be measured, not only by the rest of America, but by others in the world community at large. Yet the most crucial measurement will be history itself — whether our children are prepared to lead this state into the future.

Unless we come to terms with the conditions we now find in our own educational system, and rebuild and rejuvenate our system with quality and excellence as our goals, Texas may lose the foundation of all her past progress. We just must not leave Texas standing by, while others get ahead. Our state and its people cannot afford it. And I have deep faith — I am firm in my conviction — that there is not a person in our presence today who would let that happen.

In recent weeks I have submitted my specific package of reform proposals that has been the basis for agreement among the leadership.

The ingredients of an effective educational reform package are well-known to all of us.

We must make certain that every child learns to read and write before leaving the first grade — and that no child leaves the schools of Texas without proficiency in English.

Whether headed for college or into the workplace no young person today is equipped for life without a grasp of math and science. We must teach the basics of math and science, and teach them well.

No teacher can do the job, no student can learn, in an overcrowded classroom that breeds neglect of our children's needs. So we must reduce class size.

Job markets are changing and so are the job skills that workers need. Therefore, we must have cost-efficient and quality-controlled vocational training for a changing economy.

We must put work ahead of play — we must recapture the school day for academic endeavors.

Learning cannot be achieved with disorder and misconduct in the classroom. There is no excuse for any school district to be without a code of conduct. We must not tolerate disruption in our schools.

We must have equalization of funding to guarantee equal educational opportunity for every boy and girl in every school district in the state of Texas. You and I will not have succeeded in meeting our responsibility until each of us would be proud to send our children to any school in this state — for that is what the true test will be.

If our children are to grow up and become the best and the brightest they must be taught by the best and brightest — and we must provide scholarships to attract the most talented people into teaching.

We must have a clear measurement of student progress, and the best way to achieve that is to end social promotion and begin annual monitoring of student achievement.

The state of Texas spends \$8 billion every biennium on education. And yet it is difficult to find anyone accountable for how we spend those precious dollars. We must have a directly accountable management system.

The possibilities in education are restricted if the road to becoming a teacher is too narrow. Therefore we must have alternative routes to teacher certification.

We must have some method of assessing current teaching and administrative staff to ensure that all professionals in our schools possess the skills necessary to provide quality education.

And although I waited till last, the first thing every report has said is that we must give teachers better pay.

We must realize that Texans won't get the teachers they deserve until teachers are rewarded and respected. We can no longer expect women to subsidize our system of education when better paying careers are now open to them. Many people cry out that government should be run like a business. Well, no good business manager in the private sector would expect to retain the best talent and expertise by offering less than a competitive wage. Teachers are the very heart and soul of the education system. Because we value our children's future, we must pay teachers more.

At the same time, we must admit that low teacher pay isn't the only problem with our schools. What is going on in our schools is clear indication that many priorities are misaligned.

Because our mission must involve the quest for excellence and quality in those who teach, it is incumbent that we devise a system which clearly documents the abilities of those who educate our youth. No other issue is more emotionally charged. No other issue more clearly deserves our most judicious attention.

I am convinced that a system can be established which meets the need for assessment of a teacher's skills — and at the same time recognizes the importance of equity and performance.

I am also sensitive to the concerns of those who feel that we cannot afford to spend more for education in view of the state's fiscal condition. You can be assured of my strong commitment to avoid additional taxes in the next session. My finance plan which I have submitted for your consideration reflects my commitment to that goal. Just as important, my plan was drawn with fairness to all taxpayers.

I cannot and I will not ask you or the citizens of this state to support a plan to finance public education reform and highway improvements without pledging that these and all other government programs be operated more efficiently and effectively. I am committed to making state agencies more accountable. And I am committed to controlling the cost of state government.

During the past 6 months, I have met with board members and top managers of our largest agencies to discuss cost savings and cost containment measures. In addition, I have written to the head of each state board and commission stressing the need for tight budget planning in the 1986-87 biennium. I will not support additional funding for agencies that are poorly managed, wasteful or unable to plan effectively — and I have told each one of them just that.

Each agency will be required to justify any increase in the number of employees, as well as budgets for travel, equipment and supplies, telephones and utilities, and all other areas of spending. The burden of proof will be on the agency. And the automatic increases will not be permitted.

I am confident that we can live within the revenues made available by our current tax structure and the finance plan I have recommended. And I am confident that with your help we will not need to raise additional taxes in the next regular session.

I have prepared a detailed set of spending projections for the 1986-87 biennium that will allow state government to meet essential needs even under the most pessimistic and conservative estimate that we will have only a 9 percent growth in our revenue.

My proposal, which I will discuss with you in greater detail later this week, calls for a tight budget allowing only moderate increases for inflation and growth. It would require state agencies to hold the line on operating expenses that can be reined in through innovative and careful management.

If my budget plan — including my education and highway improvement proposal — is adopted, it would represent a 12.2 percent biennial increase, the smallest percentage increase in state spending since 1970.

If this plan is adopted, it would permit you to return to your districts at the end of the next regular legislative session and tell your constituents that you helped enact the most fiscally conservative budget of the past 15 years.

If revenue growth exceeds 9 percent — and I believe that it will, based on the stable economic recovery currently underway in Texas — additional funds would be available to meet the additional needs of a growing population.

But in our immediate concerns for fiscal responsibility, let us not be short-sighted. Let us always keep in mind that improvements in education will do more to ensure the prosperity of this state and nation than any other step we might take.

Those who are inflexible in their view that we can solve all the problems in education without a greater investment are blind to the reality of where we stand.

- For too long we have called upon our educational system to do too many things. For too long we have asked too much and have given too little.

We are in the midst of a great period of transition in Texas, with profound implications for the nature of our work and the way we live.

Today we are at the crossroads.

Oil and gas, the economic foundation of the past, is gradually receding with the depletion of those resources. The age of information, of high tech and “Megatrends” and “Future Shock” has arrived with lightning speed.

We have nothing to fear about the future, and we cannot afford to look back fondly to the past. Our future lies in our ability to prepare and plan for a smooth transition that will bring forward our best while leaving none of our citizens behind.

Time and again, education and transportation have been the magnets that attract and sustain a dynamic economy. We must ensure that those two vital elements will continue to be strong magnets as we look forward to the future.

I submit to the members of this legislature and the people of this state that the direction we must choose for Texas at this moment is the one that is truest to our heritage...a heritage of courageous and spirited action with our eyes firmly fixed on the future.

The problems of education and transportation will not go away, even if we pretend they are not there.

We cannot run from them. We cannot escape them.

The immortal words of Franklin Roosevelt remind us that we here in this chamber today have a “rendezvous with destiny.”

Thank you very much.

Speaker Lewis, upon the conclusion of Governor White’s address, presented the following platform guests: The Honorable Jack Pope, Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court; The Honorable John Onion, Presiding Judge of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals and The Honorable John Fainter, Secretary of State.

### MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

S.R. 4 - By Brooks: Memorial resolution for Mrs. Alice P. Brown.

### ADJOURNMENT

The President announced the purpose of the Joint Session had been accomplished and declared the Senate at 12:29 o’clock p.m. would stand adjourned until 9:30 o’clock a.m. tomorrow in accordance with a motion previously adopted in the Senate.